COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Defense Dept. Orders Survey Of Off-Base Rental Housing

Defense Department has asked stateside commanders to conduct a census on "equal opportunity for military personnel in rental of off-base housing."

Installations with 500 or more military personnel will participate.

The census was requested by Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus R. Vance in a memorandum to secretaries of the military departments.

Secretary Vance said there have been numerous instances of voluntary adoption of a non-discrimination policy by owners of private off-base facilities.

"But more needs to be done," the memo states, "to attain our objective of assuring equal off-base housing opportunities for all men and women in uniform."

The census includes apartment houses, housing developments and mobile courts with five or more units. In all cases, they must be suitable for military occupancy and within normal commuting distance of the base.

Commanding officers have been asked to make or have made personal contact with owners or operators "to request that the facility be made available for rental to military personnel without regard to race, creed, color or national origin."

The memo establishes an "Off-Base Housing Equal Opportunity Board" of the Department of Defense. A coordinator shall be designated in the office of each service secretary and OSD. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower) has been named OSD coordinator.

The board will establish specific procedures and techniques for accomplishing and monitoring the nationwide housing census.

RVN Proposes Cease Fire For Buddha's Birthday

A cease fire in Vietnam to observe Buddha's birthday May 23 has been proposed by the Republic of Vietnam.

The United States has already agreed a truce should be held to mark this important Buddhist holiday, in line with similar cease fires during Christmas, New Years and TET lunar holiday in February.

FRIENDLY VISIT—Maj. Gen. C. H. Dunn, Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics, Military Assistance Command, RVN, visits with Capt. H. P. Streeper, Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier USS Hancock. The general and Capt. Streeper were 1958 graduates of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington.

LBJ Urges Congress to End "Riders" on DOD Legislation

President Johnson has strongly urged Congress to refrain from attaching restrictive "riders" to Defense Department legislation.

The Chief Executive made this statement when signing the $12.2 billion FY67 Supplemental Appropriation for Vietnam.

He noted that Congress had placed mandatory restrictions on the deactivation of certain airlift and troop carrier units in the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

The President said the phasing out of certain of these units is part of an over-all airlift growth and modernization plan currently in progress within the Department of Defense.

"While similar restrictions have been included in the Defense Department Appropriation bill in recent years, I am becoming increasingly concerned about them because of the undesirable rigidity they impose on our military structure," Mr. Johnson said.

Washington Memos

LARGEST DRAFT CALL this year is DOD request for 19,800 inductees in June. All will be assigned to Army. This brings monthly average to 14,600 for first half CY67.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY Organization celebrated its 18th anniversary at headquarters in Norfolk, Va., last week. Comprised of 18 member nations, NATO was praised by Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, for prevention of aggression in western Europe.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS and Space Administration has announced appointment of Maj. Gen. James W. Humphreys Jr., USAF, to post of Director of Space Medicine in NASA's Headquarters Office of Manned Space Flight, effective June 1. Gen. Humphreys will assume post held by late Dr. W. Randolph Lovelace II. Air Force Brig. Gen. Jack Bollerud, who has been acting Director of Space Medicine will return to duty with Air Force.

FIRST FLEET IS conducting operation "Blue Coral" off coast of California during week of April 11-18. Twenty-five ships and 21 air units will form exercise force. Under overall command of VAdm. B. F. Roeder, Commander First Fleet, Blue Coral forces are concentrating on many aspects of naval warfare.

FLIGHT MEDICAL OFFICERS who have completed at least a year in their present assignment may apply for three years residency training in aerospace medicine. Applications must reach the Air Force Military Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Tex., before April 28. Additional information is available from local Personnel Offices.

PRODUCTION OF $2.6 million in aircraft engine components by Avco Lycoming Division, Avco Corp., Stratford, Conn., has been authorized by Army Aviation Materiel Command.

ARMY BRIGADIER GENERAL Edward H. de Saussure Jr., has assumed duties as 1st Air Cavalry Division Assistant Commander. Formerly artillery commander, I Force V, Gen. de Saussure replaced Brig. Gen. Alfred J. F. Moody, who died of a heart attack after being with 1st Cavalry Division less than a week.

DR. HARRY HAMMOND HESS, chairman of Princeton University's Department of Geology and consultant to U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, Suitland, Md., has been appointed to President's Committee on National Medal of Science.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL Joan B. Weeks has been assigned as Deputy Director, Women in the Air Force, replacing Lt. Col. Helen R. Huyett, who retired March 31. Col. Weeks served as Director of Manpower and Organization, Headquarters, European, African, Middle East Communications Area at Lindsey Air Station, Weisbaden, Germany.

MAJOR GENERAL Robert H. Warren has assumed post of Air Force Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, in Washington. Gen. Warren's duties will include management policies on procurement, training, education, assignment, career development, promotion and discharge for more than one million Air Force personnel.

JUST DISTRIBUTED AF Regulation 36-7 explains how regular officers may apply for up to 48 months of excess leave to study law and qualify for duty with Air Force JAG. Applicants must present evidence of acceptance by an accredited law school. Annually JAG is authorized to select limited number of regular officers, Air Force Academy graduates, and ROTC or OTS distinguished graduates for entry into program.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL for Missouri Air National Guard, Brig. Gen. Ross C. Garlich, has been named chairman of Air Force Communications Service's Air Reserve Forces Policy Council. Gen. Garlich, who has been serving as council's vice chairman, will succeed Brig. Gen. Peter C. Sandretto, who is scheduled to retire April 22.

UNDER SECRETARY of the Air Force Norman S. Paul is on a 13-day visit of units in the Pacific. He departed Washington, D.C., April 8, accompanied by Air Force Assistant Secretary for Financial Management Leonard Marks Jr., and Air Force General Counsel J. William Doolittle.

AIR FORCE SYSTEMS Command's Electronic Systems Division at Hanscom Field, Mass., has announced completion of a modernization program for communications between England and West Germany. Updating of main line military communications link was accomplished under a $1 million plus contract with Federal Electric Corp., Paramus, N.J.

ARMY AVIATION MATERIEL Command has announced contract awards totaling $4.7 million to Allison Division, General Motors Corp., Indianapolis, Ind., in support of Army's OH-6A Light Observation Helicopter program. Broken into two separate contracts, one calls for modification of previously awarded letter contract and authorized production of an additional 229 T63-A-5A turboshaft engines at a cost of $2.5 million. Second award, amounting to $2.3 million, authorizes Allison Division to conduct a 12-month component improvement program on T63 engine, used to power OH-6A.

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Defense Secretary Testifies On MAP Budget Request

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has told Congress that about three-quarters of the $596 million for the Military Assistance Program (MAP) in the proposed FY68 budget is allocated to five nations bordering the Soviet Union and Red China.

Testifying before the House Foreign Affairs Committee April 11, he said that Greece, Turkey, Iran, Republic of China and Korea are vitally important to the U.S. forward strategy for free-world common defense.

Mr. McNamara stressed that internal strife in Red China has not diminished Peking's support of insurgency against Vietnam and Thailand.

"The potential for Red Chinese aggression against peripheral nations remains real and cannot be discounted in our global defense planning," he elaborated.

The Defense Secretary noted that the MAP program is not designed to support forces actually engaged in combat operations, such as those of the Republic of Vietnam. Military aid to Vietnam is financed in the regular military budget.

He said a similar budgetary transfer from MAP to regular military budget funding is being considered for Laos and Thailand for FY68.

SecDef. Announces Project to Develop Three-Nation Communications Network

A tactical communications system linking field armies of the United States, Australia and Canada will undergo cooperative development by the three countries.

The Mallard Project, announced by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, will use all kinds of message and data transmission, from simple written messages to digital systems, and could possibly involve communications satellites.

Project groundwork was established during the last two years. More recently, a series of international meetings led to a development plan, after defining operational and technical requirements.

The initial development phase will solicit competitive system design studies from U.S. industry. Three-country industry participation will be encouraged for certain supporting technique efforts.

Scheduling calls for a five to seven-year research and development program and a follow-on phase for equipment production. This would provide the system between 1975-77.

U.S. program manager is Brig. Gen. Paul A. Feyereisen, Deputy CG, Plans and Programs, Army Electronics Command, Ft. Monmouth, N.J.

HARRIS HONORED—Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell presents the Distinguished Service Medal and the Air Medal to former Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Forces, Gen. Hunter Harris (USAF-Ret.) during ceremonies at the Pentagon late last month. Gen. Harris, who retired Jan. 31, was cited for "forceful leadership and professional ability" during the buildup and commitment of Air Force elements against Communist aggression in Southeast Asia while Pacific Forces commander.

NATO Defense Chiefs End Nuclear Planning Conference

The NATO Nuclear Planning Group wound up its two-day Washington meeting April 7 by agreeing to keep all aspects of ballistic missile defense under review.

The final communique from the seven defense ministers said that Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara briefed them on "the current status of discussions initiated by the U.S. with the Soviet government to explore ways of preventing a further spiraling of the arms race."

Existing strategic nuclear forces and plans for employing them were discussed and considered adequate.

"The ministers agreed that the number of tactical nuclear weapons available to Allied Commanders in Europe and the Atlantic are adequate but that the appropriate distribution of types of weapons should be kept under continuous review," the communique said.

The communique also said atomic demolition munitions were discussed and deserve further study.

The defense ministers from Canada, Germany, Italy, Turkey, the Netherlands, Britain and the United States agreed to meet again in September in Ankara, Turkey.

The Nuclear Planning Group was established last December but is a permanent part of NATO and reports to the 14-nation North Atlantic Council.

DOD Issues Policy On Uniform Wear For All Services

A new policy prohibiting the wear of military uniforms in certain circumstances by all service personnel has been incorporated for the first time in a single DOD directive.

DOD Directive 1334.1, signed by Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus R. Vance, is effective immediately.

It prohibits wearing the military uniform by all personnel, including active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged members:

- At any meeting or demonstration of any organization, association, movement and group designated by the Attorney General as totalitarian, fascist, communist or subversive or advocating acts of violence to deny constitutional rights or to overthrow the government.
- During private employment or commercial activities in which official sponsorship could be drawn.
- Under circumstances tending to bring discredit on the Armed Forces.
- Under other circumstances that may be specified and published by the secretaries of the military departments.

The directive also specifies the ceremonial and patriotic occasions when honorably discharged servicemen may wear the uniforms, such as military funerals, memorial services and inaugurals.

Goose AB Squadron Wins 1966 Paul Dillard Award

The Paul A. Dillard Award for 1966 has been awarded to the 95th Transportation Sq., Goose AB, Labrador.

The award is presented annually by the Strategic Air Command to the most effective transportation squadron within the command.

Brig. Gen. Adriel N. Williams, USAF, director of transportation, presented the award during the Worldwide Transportation Officers Conference.

JSC MEDAL—Marine Captain John H. Van Niman (left) receives the Joint Services Commendation Medal from Maj. Gen. Lewis J. Fields, CG, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Capt. Van Niman earned the medal for service as advisor to the Royal Thailand Marine Corps from October 1964 to January 1967. He is now undergoing training in Staging Battalion, preparing for duty in Vietnam.

Gen. McConnell Named To French Legion of Honor

Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. John P. McConnell has been awarded membership in the French Legion of Honor, in the grade of commander.

The Legion of Honor is the principal military order of France.

French Ambassador Charles Lucet presented the decoration during a reception at the French Embassy in Washington, D. C.

German Defense Minister Completes U.S. Visit

Federal Republic of Germany Defense Minister Dr. Gerhard Schroeder made a four-day coast-to-coast visit in early April of selected DOD installations.

He observed German Air Force personnel training at Luke AFB, Ariz., and toured the missile facilities at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Dr. Schroeder made the visit following participation in the NATO Nuclear Council meeting in Washington April 6-7.

MAW Tank Killer Renamed 'Dragon'

"Dragon" is the new name for Army's shoulder-fired, anti-tank weapon that hurls guided missiles against tanks, bunkers and field fortifications.

The old designation, MAW, stood for Medium Anti-tank Assault Weapon. The tank killer is under development by Army and the McDonnell Co., system prime contractor.

Dragon is Army's first guided missile system light enough, at about 27 pounds, to be carried and fired by one man. Army's announcement said the Dragon could be used by field troops without extensive training.

It is particularly suited for airborne or airmobile operations, and for employment where terrain is difficult for vehicular travel.

The weapon will be far superior in range, accuracy and lethality to the 90mm recoilless rifle it will replace.

Seven Army Generals Slated for '67 Retirement

President Johnson has named seven Army lieutenant generals for retired list placement in their present grade, including the commanding generals of the First, Third, Fourth and Sixth U. S. Armies.

The first due to retire is Lt. Gen. William F. Train, CG, First Army. His retirement date is June 1.

Three are slated for July 1 retirement. They are Lt. Gen. James L. Richardson Jr., CG, Sixth Army; Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Dunn, CG, Fourth Army; and Lt. Gen. August Schomburg, Commandant, Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Scheduled for Aug. 1 retirement are Lt. Gen. Louis W. Truman, CG, Third Army, and Lt. Gen. Harvey H. Fischer, Deputy CG, USCONARC.

Lt. Gen. Richard D. Meyer, Director for Logistics, J-4, Joint Staff, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will retire Oct. 1.

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